

While witness to many changes in medical techniques and styles, Dr. Oehler showed a remarkable ability to adapt, and to keep his focus on patient-based medicine. His legacy will long remain a testament to that focus.

Dr. Gerald Oehler became Physician Emeritus at Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System on June 1, 2007. His dedication and professionalism will remain as an inspiration to all who follow.

HONORING SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT RICHARD J. McCUE FOR HIS 25 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE (NCIS)

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Supervisory Special Agent Richard J. McCue. After 25 years of distinguished and honorable service, he retires this month from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS).

In addition to his service with the NCIS, Mr. McCue has also served his country as an officer in the United States Marine Corps. Since September 11th, Mr. McCue has volunteered for several dangerous overseas assignments, including being part of the first NCIS team in the nation to provide Protective Services support to Coalition Provisional Authority leadership in southern Iraq. During this tour, Mr. McCue conducted over one hundred missions in active combat zones, directly encountering both active fire and several Improvised Explosive Devices.

Among numerous honors and achievements, Mr. McCue was requested by name to formalize the Surveillance Detection Mission for U.S. Forces within Kuwait, as well as forces transitioning to the Theater of Operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition, Mr. McCue volunteered to serve as a forensic expert on the investigative/recovery team at the Pentagon after the September 11th attacks, providing both his expertise and compassionate care for the victims of that attack. In honor of this selfless service, Mr. McCue received the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medal as well as the Expeditionary Service Medal.

Please join me in recognizing Richard McCue for his distinguished service to the people of the United States. We wish him well on his retirement.

EATHAN HOLTZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Eathan Holtz who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Eathan Holtz is a senior at Compass Montessori High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Eathan Holtz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Eathan Holtz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO SI FRUMKIN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to join my colleague HOWARD BERMAN in paying tribute to Si Frumkin, who passed away in Los Angeles, California on May 15, 2009. For more than 40 years, Si was a singularly focused and steadfast voice fighting for equality, freedom and dignity. As a Holocaust survivor, he heard a call of duty and answered it with a passionate resolve to not rest until the injustices he identified had been addressed. He was a role model, a mentor, and a friend we will miss.

Born in 1930 in the town of Kaunas, Lithuania, Simas Frumkinas came from an affluent family that was not particularly religious or politically active. When the Germans invaded Kaunas in 1941, and the Communists took over his father's business, the Frumkin family was herded into a Jewish ghetto. The ghetto was liquidated in 1944, and Si and his father were sent to the Dachau concentration camp where he and his father were forced laborers in a Nazi aircraft hangar. Si was just 13 years old.

Si's father passed away just 20 days before Dauchau was liberated in 1945. When the camp was liberated by the U.S. Army, he went on to study in Switzerland, England, and Venezuela, where he was reunited with his mother before graduating from New York University in 1953. Soon after, he arrived in Los Angeles, where he took over a textile company—Universal Drapery Fabrics—and earned a master's degree in History at night at the California State University campus in Northridge.

As he became aware of the repression of Soviet Jews in the early 1960s, Si leapt into action, beginning a relentless journey as a founding father of the Soviet Jewry movement and becoming a mentor and ally on behalf of Soviet Jews. He brought up a young student to UCLA and that student went on to become Los Angeles City Councilman (now County Supervisor) Zev Yaroslavsky. In 1968, he formed the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews and excelled in using unconventional methods to bring attention to the issue. When the Bolshoi ballet performed in Los Angeles, Si wrote up fake programs encouraging patrons to enjoy the ballet but adding a message about the oppression. When President Nixon was visited by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, Si released 5,000 balloons with the message, "Let My People Go." With candlelight rallies attended by tens of thousands, letter-writing campaigns and other grass roots efforts, he enlisted a generation into action.

Once the Iron Curtain fell and thousands of Jews were permitted to leave, Si turned his focus to assist in resettling those who arrived in Los Angeles and Southern California. He became the liaison for the émigrés on everything from résumé workshops to clothing drives.

In 1992, Si began publishing "Graffiti for Intellectuals," a bi-weekly newsletter with information and commentary on politics, social issues, and challenges in the community. With candor, conviction and often a touch of humor, his columns expounded on the needs of Holocaust survivors seeking restitution and reparations, the plight of Israel, the fight against anti-Semitism, and other Jewish causes.

In the face of fierce resistance, Si never relented or grew too tired to persevere. His creativity and sincerity inspired people to action. While we mourn his absence, we pay tribute with an enduring debt of gratitude for his remarkable courage and vision. His tremendous legacy will be felt for generations to come.

Si is survived by his wife, Ella, his son, Michael, and two grandchildren. Ella, who always stood solidly beside him and encouraged him to carry on the cause, deserves recognition as an equal partner in his lifelong achievements. Those who knew Si well can attest to his enduring love for his family and his avid collection of chess sets.

We ask that our colleagues join us as we celebrate the remarkable life and tremendous contributions of Si Frumkin. Si was living proof that one person can change the course of history.

CONGRATULATING PAM BRUNETTE ON HER EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of South Bend, Pamela Brunette, a woman who has selflessly devoted her time, talent and energy to our Marines. Her impact on the lives of our troops and their families is immeasurable, the result of her unflagging efforts to boost their morale during some of the most trying periods of their lives.

Like so many, Pam was shocked by the assault on our country that took place on September 11, 2001. She took positive action in a way that would help those sent to defend our lives, liberty and honor. Pam learned about Adoptaplatoon, whose mission it is to "Support America's men and women deployed abroad, while they protect our country." Believing in this mission, Pam joined Adoptaplatoon to support those who sacrifice so much on our behalf.

Pam first adopted a platoon of soldiers who were deployed to Kosovo and Bosnia. As part of her service to these men and women, Pam communicated with them regularly, through letters and emails, bringing a glimpse of "home" to many of them. Even as Pam's adoptees returned from duty, she continued her efforts by caring for newly deployed service members.

When Marines from Engineer Company B deployed for Iraq for the first time in 2003,

Pam stepped forward and adopted the entire company. She coordinated the efforts of other volunteers to ensure that each Marine was assigned a supporter to communicate with them throughout their deployment. In addition, Pam wrote them herself, and sent care packages. Pam provided so much love, support and appreciation to these troops, that she is now called "Mom." In addition, many of these soldiers and their families include her in their personal celebrations. To Pam, this is the greatest honor of all.

Pam continued to support Engineer Company B when they were redeployed in 2005. In addition, she helps them with the annual Toys for Tots drive. She continues to encourage others to join Adoptapatoon and support our service men and women. Pam believes our military is the best in the world, and they should receive the best we can give. She takes it upon herself to give them her best.

Because of her outstanding commitment to Adoptapatoon and our troops, Pam has been awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. This award is given to volunteers in recognition of their service to their community and their country.

So, today, on behalf of the citizens of Indiana's Second District, I thank Pam Brunette for her years of selfless dedication to our men and women in uniform. As she continues to work to bring a sense of appreciation and concern to our military personnel and their families, let us pay special tribute to this woman who truly expresses support for our troops through her action, dedication and commitment.

KATERYNA KONDRATYSHYNA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kateryna Kondratyshyna who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kateryna Kondratyshyna is a junior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kateryna Kondratyshyna is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kateryna Kondratyshyna for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
PATRICK O'CONNOR

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Chicagoan and a true friend, Patrick O'Connor, who passed away this past Tuesday.

An athlete and a sports fan, Patrick was the past President of the Chicago Gaelic Athletic Association, and the St. Pat's Football Club. An active member of our community, Patrick was a committed member of the DeSoto Council Knights of Columbus. A dedicated family man, Patrick leaves behind his beloved wife Barbara, his five children: Michael, Robert, Catherine, Daniel, and Alderman Pat O'Connor, as well as dozens of grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

On behalf of my family, and those lives in my district that Patrick touched over the years, I send my deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2009 BEAT THE ODDS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2009 Beat the Odds Awards presented by the Prince William County Bar Foundation. The awards recognize extraordinary youth in our community for their determination to overcome adversity and lead a full, productive life.

Beat the Odds Awards focus on young people who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system and, despite such an obstacle, have overcome abuse, neglect or juvenile delinquency with an earnest effort to realize a successful future.

It is my honor to commend the following individuals who have risen above substantial negative influences and are now being recognized as community success stories.

Recipients of the 2009 Beat the Odds Phoenix Award: Jessi Danner, Angela Garcia, Cynthia Hubler, Sha-Kina Jackson, and Maria Ann Sisson.

Recipients of the 2009 Beat the Odds Scholarship Award: Diana S. Alvarado, Howard James Artis, Courtney Blaydes, Ian Gabriel Byrd, Breanna Lee West Chrisman, Christopher England, Kendra A. Hedgespeth, Devon Kennedy, Brittani Nicole Rodriguez, Yaileen Rodriguez, and Rebecca L. Smith.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these young people for the positive example they set for their peers. Our community sends a powerful message to our youth when we encourage them to triumph over setbacks and to gain strength from hardship. The fact that more than \$100,000 in Beat the Odds scholarships have been awarded thus far is a testament to that message.

IN TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR
ALEXANDROS P. MALLIAS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Alexandros P. Mallias, the Ambassador of Greece to the United States. During his tenure, Ambassador Mallias has fostered greater understanding and forged closer bonds between the leaders of Greece and America, including with many members of the House and Senate and officials in the Executive Branch. Ambassador Mallias has been a truly outstanding representative of the Hellenic Republic.

After nearly four years leading the Greek diplomatic delegation to the United States, Ambassador Alexandros Mallias is returning to serve as a senior advisor to the Greek Foreign Minister, Dora Bakoyianni, on critical issues in the sensitive Balkan region. Having first presented his credentials in Washington in 2005, Ambassador Mallias has served with distinction during a critical period in Greek American relations.

A proponent of public diplomacy, Ambassador Mallias has made hands-on interaction with the American people an integral part of his mission here, reaching beyond the bounds of Beltway politics. He traveled extensively throughout the U.S., visiting more than 30 states and delivering more than 140 public lectures at universities, think tanks and other organizations, not just on issues relating to Greece, but also on matters affecting the broader Southeastern European region.

Born on October 1, 1949, Ambassador Mallias traces his family's roots to Sternitsa in the mountainous region of Arcadia. He received his undergraduate degree in Economics from University of Athens, studied Political Science at the University of Geneva, and obtained a Post-Graduate Certificate from the "Institut des Hautes Etudes Européennes". He joined the Foreign Service of the Hellenic Republic in 1976.

Ambassador Mallias developed a close and warm relationship with the Hellenic American Community.

He and his wife Françoise, whom he affectionately calls his "pillar of support," devoted themselves tirelessly and selflessly to promoting the relationship between the United States and Greece. They opened the Greek Embassy in Washington to events and cultural occasions, frequently hosting the Hellenic-American community and the diplomatic community at large. I was honored to be included at many of these events and even, on one special occasion, to be honored by the Greek Embassy. It was a true highlight of my career, the memory of which I will always treasure.

During his four years as Ambassador, Alexandros P. Mallias worked to ensure that the critical strategic relationship between Greece and the United States remained on a positive note. There is a fresh interest on the part of the United States to work with Greece on a wide array of issues of regional as well as global importance, such as the security of vital sea lanes.

As Ambassador Mallias has always said, Greece's greatest asset in the United States remains the vibrant Hellenic-American community, so many of whose members I am proud